

Application No: 10/820,955

Docket No.: Q207-US1

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) An energy storage device, comprising:

a case having an opening;

an electrode assembly disposed within the case, the said electrode assembly including at least a first polarity electrode member electrically and mechanically connected to a first electrode tab, and a second polarity electrode member electrically and mechanically connected to a second electrode tab;

a cover disposed to cover the opening of the case, the said cover defining a hole; and a terminal structure attached to the cover, including:

a gasket made of an insulating material and fittingly disposed within the said hole,

an electrode insulator member disposed between the said first and second electrode tabs, the said insulator member defining a hole corresponding to the said hole in the said cover, and

a fastening device having a shaft passing through the said gasket and the said hole in the said insulator member, the said fastening device applying a pressure in an axial direction of the said hole in the said cover to press the said gasket, the said cover, the said first electrode tab, the said electrode insulator, and the said second electrode tab against each other to form a seal, the said fastening device being electrically insulated from the said cover.

2. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 1, wherein the case is electrically connected to the said first electrode member and forms a terminal of the energy storage device, and wherein the fastening device is made of a conductive material and is electrically connected to the said second electrode member and forms another terminal of the energy storage device.

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3. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 2, wherein the ~~said~~ second electrode member has a higher potential than the ~~said~~ first electrode member.
4. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 2, wherein the ~~said~~ first electrode member has a higher potential than the ~~said~~ first electrode member.
5. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 1, wherein the ~~said~~ hole has a counterbore.
6. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 1, further comprising:
a washer disposed below the ~~said~~ second electrode tab and defining a hole corresponding to the ~~said~~ hole in the ~~said~~ cover.
7. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 6, wherein the ~~said~~ washer is made of a conductive material and electrically connected to the ~~said~~ second electrode tab.
8. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 6, wherein the ~~said~~ fastening device is electrically connected to the ~~said~~ washer.
- 9-10. (canceled)
11. (currently amended) An energy storage device terminal seal, comprising:
a case cover defining a hole;
a first polarity electrode tab electrically coupled to the ~~said~~ case cover;
a second polarity electrode tab electrically insulated from the ~~said~~ first polarity electrode tab and from the ~~said~~ cover; and
a fastening device having a shaft passing through the ~~said~~ hole, the ~~said~~ fastening device applying a pressure in an axial direction of the ~~said~~ hole to press the ~~said~~ cover and the ~~said~~ electrode tabs against each other to form a seal, the ~~said~~ fastening device being electrically insulated from the ~~said~~ cover and electrically coupled to the ~~said~~ second polarity electrode tab.

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12. (currently amended) The seal of ~~claim 11 wherein:~~ claim 11, wherein the said first and second polarity electrode tabs each define a hole and the said fastening device shaft passes through each of the said electrode tab holes.

13. (currently amended) The seal of ~~claim 11 wherein:~~ claim 11, wherein the said first polarity electrode tab is electrically and mechanically coupled to a first polarity electrode, and wherein the said second polarity electrode tab is electrically and mechanically coupled to a second polarity electrode.

14. (currently amended) The seal of claim 11, further comprising:
a washer disposed below the said second polarity electrode tab and defining a hole corresponding to the said hole in the said cover.

15. (currently amended) The seal of claim 11, wherein the said washer is made of a conductive material and electrically connected to the said second polarity electrode tab.

16. (currently amended) The seal of claim 11, wherein the said fastening device is electrically connected to the said washer.

17. (currently amended) An energy storage device terminal structure, comprising:
one rivet mechanically coupling a first polarity electrode to a second polarity electrode.

18. (currently amended) The terminal structure of claim 17, wherein the said rivet is electrically coupled to the second polarity electrode and electrically insulated from the first polarity electrode.

19. (currently amended) The terminal structure of claim 18, wherein the first polarity electrode is at a higher potential than the second polarity electrode.

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20. (currently amended) The terminal structure of claim 18, wherein the first polarity electrode is at a lower potential than the second polarity electrode.
21. (currently amended) The terminal structure of claim 18, further comprising:
a ring terminal mechanically coupled to the terminal structure by the said rivet and electrically coupled to the first polarity electrode.
22. (currently amended) An energy storage device comprising:
a case having an opening;
a cover disposed to cover the opening of the said case;
~~the terminal structure of claim 17~~ a terminal structure attached to the cover, the terminal structure having one rivet mechanically coupling a first polarity electrode to a second polarity electrode; and
an electrode assembly disposed within the said case and including at least the first polarity electrode and the second polarity electrode mechanically coupled by the said rivet.
23. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 22, wherein the said rivet is positive and the said case is negative.
24. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 22, wherein the said rivet is negative and the said case is positive.
25. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 22, wherein the said rivet is positive and the said case is neutral, and further comprising:
a negative ring terminal.
26. (currently amended) The energy storage device of claim 22, wherein the said rivet is negative and the said case is neutral, and further comprising:
a positive ring terminal.